such as (i) Motorisation of traditional craft with provision of subsidy for engines, (ii) Assistance to Fishery Cooperatives under Integrated Development Projects of National Cooperative Development Corporation of purchase of operational inputs such as fishing boats, nets, and engines, (iii) Assistance for installation of fish finder, global positioning system, radio telephones etc. on board the fishing vessels, provided by Marine Products Export Development Authority; Department of Ocean Development, etc.

As reported by the States, the percentage of modernization of fishing fleet including traditional craft is 24.70 in Orissa, 43.12 in Kerala, 47.25 in Maharashtra, 42.82 in West Bengal and 19.21 in Andhra Pradesh.

Task Force on Chemical Industry

*476. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre has decided to set up a high powered task force on chemical industry to strengthen the chemical industry to boost exports and to facilitate enhanced foreign direct investment;

(b) if so, what would be the main task of this task force;

(c) whether this task force has formulated any major policy initiatives;

(d) if so, whether any recommendation has been made by this task force;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) what steps arc being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (0 A Task Frocc on the chemical industry has been set up with the following terms of reference:

(i) Identify the areas of compctitvc advantages of the Indian chemical industry in the context of the emerging global scenario.

(ii) Formulate policy initiatives required to further strengthen areas of compctitvc advantages.

(iii) Examine the issue of "dumping" in the chemical sector and suggest remedial measures including appropriate levels of tariffs.

(iv) Identify steps to be taken for introducing GMPs which are at par with international standards.

(v) Suggest strategies for sustained growth of exports from the chemical sector.

(vi) Suggest steps to be taken for introducing changes and measures to enable the industry to become and remain competitive in the post WTO environment.

(vii) Suggest ways and means of strengthening R&D in the chemicals sector.

(viii) Identify measures such that Indian scientists in the chemical sector could take advantage of India's strength in the IT Sector to create intellectual property.

(ix) Identify appropriate institutions, in close cooperation with which, training and skill development for the human resource in the chemical sector could be undertaken.

(x) Suggest machinery which could, on a continuing basis, identify areas of further growth and work inclose coordiantion with the industry.

(xi) Indentify steps to be taken for providing infrastructure for the synergistic development of the chemical industry, and

(xii) Suggest ways of promoting worker' safety, health and environment and Responsible Care.

The Report of the Task Force is expected by the end of December, 2001.

Rail Infrastructure in NF Railway

*477. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 976 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2nd March, 2001, and state:

(a) whether the final location survey report for Bogibeel project has become available; if so, whether the final clearance has been processed and the work taken up;

(b) the schedule for completion, the work completed so far, the target achieved and target works remaining; and

(c) the proposals received by the Ministry from the divisions of the NF Railway for improvement of the Rail infrastructure in the region and the action taken on them?